

MAY 25 1961

FOIAb3b

Amelia Earhart Fate— Saipan Bones a Clue?

By United Press International

SAN FRANCISCO

A radio newsman said yesterday he found what may be the remains of Amelia Earhart and Fred Noonan in graves on Saipan Island.

The famed aviatrix and her navigator disappeared twenty-four years ago during a world-circling flight and no definite trace of them ever has been found.

Fred Goerner of KCBS, San Francisco, has been investigating the case for months. In July, 1960 he returned from Saipan with an airplane generator he thought might be from the Earhart plane, but it never was proved to be authentic.

Mr. Goerner went back to Saipan in September and located graves alongside a native cemetery. Remains removed included several deteriorated bones and thirty-seven teeth. These were to arrive in San

Francisco today and will be examined by Prof. Theodore McCown, University of California anthropologist. He said he would not be able to look at them before Monday at earliest.

If the remains should be identified positively as those of Miss Earhart and Mr. Noonan, it would solve only a part of the mystery of their disappearance. Remaining would be the puzzle of how they got to Saipan, or why.

Saipan is 2,500 miles from Howland Island, which was the flyers' destination on July 2, 1937, after they took off from Lae, New Guinea, for the Pacific Ocean legs of their flight. Their last messages indicated their belief that they were close to Howland.

Mr. Goerner said he made his second trip to Saipan because of a tip from Thomas E. Devine, of West Haven,

CPYRGHT

CPYRGHT